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INFO RUEHZG/NATO EU COLLECTIVE PRIORITY  
RUEHNSC/NSC WASHINGTON DC PRIORITY  
RUEKJCS/SECDEF WASHINGTON DC PRIORITY  
RHEFDIA/DIA WASHINGTON DC PRIORITY  
RUEAIIA/CIA WASHINGTON DC PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L BUDAPEST 000936

SENSITIVE  
SIPDIS

DEPARTMENT FOR EUR/RPM LESLIE HAYDEN AND EUR/CE JAMIE LAMORE

E.O. 12958: DECL: 09/22/2018  
TAGS: PREL NATO RS HU  
SUBJECT: HUNGARY ON NO BUSINESS AS USUAL IN THE NRC

REF: SECSTATE 100790

Classified By: P/E Counselor Eric Gaudiosi, reason 1.4 (b,d)

¶1. (C) MFA NATO Section Chief Peter Sztaray discussed reftel with PolOff on September 23. Sztaray agreeing that the NRC meetings should not be held, initially commented that the Prepcom meetings would provide an avenue for discussion on areas of mutual NATO/Russia concern. Acknowledging the reftel argument concerning the linkage between the Prepcom and the NRC, he then viewed working-level meetings as an appropriate approach. Sztaray concurred with the view that further decisions on the engagement level with Russia can only take place after the October 15 meeting in Geneva.

¶2. (U) Having just returned from a three-week course at the Marshall Center, it was clear that Sztaray had not discussed the issue with Hungary's NATO representative.

Foley